

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for deriving enhanced image processing parameters for a source digital image, comprising the steps of:
 - a) providing a source digital image;
 - b) generating at least three rendered digital images from the source digital image with at least one image processing parameter associated with each rendered digital image;
 - c) simultaneously displaying the rendered digital images on a display;
 - d) selecting two or more of the simultaneously displayed rendered digital images; and
 - e) using the image processing parameters associated with the selected two or more rendered digital images to generate enhanced image processing parameters for generating an enhanced image, including a compressed tone scale function wherein different regions of an enhanced image have different brightness ranges.
2. (original) The method of claim 1 further including the step of storing enhanced image processing parameters with the source digital image as meta-data.
3. (original) The method of claim 1 further including the step of using the enhanced image processing parameters and the source digital image to produce an enhanced digital image.
4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the brightness of the rendered digital images.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the color of the rendered digital images.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the tone scale of the rendered digital images.

7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (original) The method of claim 1 further including the step of using the image processing parameters associated with the rendered digital images to calculate a tone scale function.

11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) The method of said claim 1 wherein one of selected rendered digital images is selected at least twice and the enhanced image processing parameters associated with the selected rendered digital images are a function of the number of times of said at least twice selected rendered digital images is selected.

13. (currently amended) ~~The A method of claim 1 further including the step of~~ for deriving enhanced image processing parameters for a source digital image, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a source digital image;

b) generating at least three rendered digital images from the source digital image with at least one image processing parameter associated with each rendered digital image;

c) displaying the rendered digital images on a display;

d) selecting two or more of the rendered digital images;

e) using the image processing parameters associated with the rendered digital images to generate enhanced image processing parameters, including a compressed tone scale function wherein different regions of an enhanced image have different brightness ranges; and

f) displaying a message on the display indicating that ~~the first one~~ selection of a rendered digital relates to the main subject of the source digital image and ~~the another second~~ selection of a rendered digital image relates to the background of the source digital image.

14. (original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of selecting a mode button on the display before each selection of a rendered digital image.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) ~~The A method of claim 15 further including the step of for generating an enhanced digital image from a source digital image, comprising the steps of:~~

a) providing a source digital image;

b) generating at least three rendered digital images from the source digital image with at least one image processing parameter associated with each rendered digital image;

c) displaying the rendered digital images on a display;

d) selecting two or more of the rendered digital images;

e) using the image processing parameters associated with the rendered digital images to generate an enhanced digital image from said source digital image, wherein said enhanced digital image has a compressed tone scale function wherein different regions of said enhanced image have different brightness ranges; and

f) displaying a message on the display indicating that ~~the first one~~ selection of a rendered digital relates to the main subject of the source digital image and ~~the second~~ another selection of a rendered digital image relates to the background of the source digital image.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~15~~1, further including the step of selecting a mode button on the display before each selection of a rendered digital image.

24. (currently amended) Apparatus for deriving enhanced image processing parameters for a source digital image, comprising:

a) means for providing a source digital image;

b) means for generating at least three rendered digital images from the source digital image with at least one image processing parameter associated with each rendered digital image;

c) means for simultaneously displaying the rendered digital images on a display;

d) means for selecting two or more of the simultaneously displayed rendered digital images; and

e) means for using the image processing parameters associated with the selected two or more rendered digital images to generate enhanced image processing parameters for generating an enhanced image, ~~including a compressed~~

~~tone scale function wherein different regions of an enhanced image have different brightness ranges.~~

25. (original) The apparatus of claim 24 further including means for storing enhanced image processing parameters with the source digital image as meta-data.

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 24 further including means for using the enhanced image processing parameters and the source digital image to produce an enhanced digital image.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the brightness of the rendered digital images.

28. (original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the color of the rendered digital images.

29. (original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the tone scale of the rendered digital images.

30. (original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the brightness of the rendered digital images.

31. (original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the color of the rendered digital images.

32. (original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the tone scale of the rendered digital images.

33. (original) The apparatus of claim 24 further including means for using the image processing parameters associated with the rendered digital images to calculate a tone scale function.

34. (original) The apparatus of claim 25 further including means for using the image processing parameters associated with the rendered digital images to calculate a tone scale function wherein the tone scale function is stored with the source digital image.

35. (original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein one of selected rendered digital images is selected at least twice and the enhanced image processing parameters associated with the selected rendered digital images are a function of the number of times of said at least twice selected rendered digital images.

36. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 24 further including~~ Apparatus for deriving enhanced image processing parameters for a source digital image, comprising:

a) means for providing a source digital image;

b) means for generating at least three rendered digital images from the source digital image with at least one image processing parameter associated with each rendered digital image;

c) means for displaying the rendered digital images on a display;

d) means for selecting two or more of the rendered digital images;

e) means for using the image processing parameters associated with the rendered digital images to generate enhanced image processing parameters, including a compressed tone scale function wherein different regions of an enhanced image have different brightness ranges; and

f) means for displaying a message on the display indicating that the first one selection of a rendered digital relates to the main subject of the source digital image and the second another selection of a rendered digital image relates to the background of the source digital image.

37. (original) The apparatus of claim 24, further including means for selecting a mode button on the display before each selection of a rendered digital image.

38. (currently amended) Apparatus for generating an enhanced digital image from a source digital image, comprising:

- a) means for providing a source digital image;
- b) means for generating at least three rendered digital images from the source digital image with at least one image processing parameter associated with each rendered digital image;
- c) means for simultaneously displaying the rendered digital images on a display;
- d) means for selecting two or more of the simultaneously displayed rendered digital images; and
- e) means for using the image processing parameters associated with the selected two or more rendered digital images to generate an enhanced digital image from said source digital image, wherein said enhanced digital image has a compressed tone scale function and wherein different regions of said enhanced image have different brightness ranges.

39. (original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the brightness of the rendered digital images.

40. (original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the color of the rendered digital images.

41. (original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the image processing parameters relate to the tone scale of the rendered digital images.

42. (original) The apparatus of claim 38 further including means for using the image processing parameters associated with the rendered digital images to calculate a tone scale function.

43. (original) The apparatus of claim 38 further including means for using a spatial filter, tone scale function , and the source digital image to generate the enhanced digital image.

44. (original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein one of selected rendered digital images is selected at least twice and the enhanced image processing parameters associated with the selected rendered digital images are a function of the number of times of said at least twice selected rendered digital images.

45. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 38 further including~~ Apparatus for generating an enhanced digital image from a source digital image, comprising:

a) means for providing a source digital image;

b) means for generating at least three rendered digital images from the source digital image with at least one image processing parameter associated with each rendered digital image;

c) means for displaying the rendered digital images on a display;

d) means for selecting two or more of the rendered digital images;

e) means for using the image processing parameters associated with the rendered digital images to generate an enhanced digital image from said source digital image, wherein said enhanced digital image has a compressed tone scale function and wherein different regions of said enhanced image have different brightness ranges; and

f) means for displaying a message on the display indicating that ~~the~~ first one selection of a rendered digital relates to the main subject of the source digital image and ~~the second~~ another selection of a rendered digital image relates to the background of the source digital image.

46. (original) The apparatus of claim 38, further including means for selecting a mode button on the display before each selection of a rendered digital image.

47. (original) A computer storage product for storing software for carrying out the method of claim 1 in a digital computer.

48. (canceled)

49. (canceled)

50. (canceled)

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66. (canceled)

67. (canceled)

68. (canceled)

69. (canceled)

70. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the enhanced image processing parameters include a compressed tone scale function wherein difference regions of an enhanced image have different brightness ranges.